

## **Macon County Social Services Board**

March 13, 2018

Minutes

### **Call to Order**

Patrick Betancourt called meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Darlene Green, Evelyn Southard, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board and Cathy Makinson Business Officer designated to record minutes.

### **Minutes**

Darlene Green made motion to approve January minutes, second by Evelyn Southard, minutes approved.

### **Financials**

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson reported the NC Corels “go live” month for state 1571 monthly financials, February claimed in March, had just been successfully completed. Cathy reported to the Board that Macon had received an additional \$10,000 in LIEAP funds which had already been expended within 1 ½ weeks. While Patrick was in Raleigh last week, he was informed that there were still funds available and that counties could ask for additional LIEAP funds so we submitted the request for an additional \$10,000. LIEAP funds have to be encumbered no later than March 31. Financials were provided in Board books.

### **Program Reports**

Program reports were rescheduled since FY 18-19 budget is to be presented.

### **Old Business**

Patrick updated the Board on the March 26<sup>th</sup> anticipated “go live” month for child welfare into NC FAST. Group 1 counties have now become extended pilot counties. Some counties, given the option, withdrew but Macon decided to remain in the group. Executive leadership within the Director’s Association reached out to Benchmarks (a provider led organization of private child placing agencies) to express concerns about NC FAST shortfalls in the area of financial reimbursement. Benchmarks leadership expressed concerns and indicated they would help legislators understand those concerns as well. NC FAST has presented how well it is working but that is in direct contrast as to actuality. The joint legislature oversight committee of DHHS is now more aware of what is happening and State DSS is being more up front and honest about how the system is functioning. Childcare subsidies, now a part of NC FAST, continue to have overpayment and underpayment issues. Changes in cases are not evaluated until after the month of service where SWCDC, who had managed our county subsidies, was able to evaluate within the month and make necessary changes so providers were paid correctly. Currently the State has a 2.5 million dollar differential. Locally, providers are not receiving payments and continue to track where they should be financially. As a rural area, any loss is a challenge and recoupments will be ongoing as the State says it is making this a priority.

Macon DSS uses Northwoods and discussion is being held as to the expense of the bridge to allow counties that choose the federated option of document imaging importing to NC FAST. State will be providing storage for required forms only. If counties choose to request more storage it will be at a cost.

Patrick gave an update to the Board on the County Agreements which HB-630 requires county DSS to enter into with DHHS in regards to performance measures across various program areas. If a county does not meet the terms of the agreement, the State could come in and take over the county until the county is able to operate within the stated parameters of the written agreement. There are a lot of metrics still to be defined. There are questions as to who should execute/sign the agreement. Patrick sent the agreement with matrix of suggested changes to the DSS attorney, and county manager as it is a legal contract that would put the expense at the county level should the state supervision take over due to performance issues.

Patrick reported he had watched the County Commissioner's meeting with the first budget work session. Davenport, the company the County hired to oversee the CIP, presented to the Commissioners. DSS only made one request which was the expansion of Senior Services and it is included on the list, projected for consideration in FY 2020. The next step for County Commissioners is to have a space needs analysis completed in 2019.

### **New Business**

Cathy Makinson, Business Officer, presented the budget for FY 18-19 for approval. Overall budget increase is \$18,374 over FY 17-18 budget and includes an overall county increase of \$49,222 in State and IV-E Foster Care due to the continuing trend and increase in foster care cases. After discussion, Lisa Leatherman made motion to approve Budget as presented, second made by Darlene Green, budget was approved.

### **Closed Session**

Lisa Leatherman made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information. Evelyn Southard seconded, and motion carried.

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the DSS Administrative Conference Room. Discussion was held to change location to the Crawford Center for the May meeting to include their employee appreciation breakfast.

APPROVED BY:

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Chairman | Date

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Secretary | Date